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dence points strongly to the conclusion that adults of this species deposit eggs before they desert the houses and take to flowers. The more limited observations and experiments on the other species (*Attagnus piceus*) show that it behaves practically the same in its phototactic reactions.

Beetles Becoming Parasites.—Kellogg ('14, Science, 39:360-361) reports on "Beetles becoming Parasites." Of the great host of Coleoptera only very rare instances of parasitism are known in spite of the fact that the great number of species and the many evidences of ready plasticity and adaptiveness seem to offer opportunities for the development of parasites in this order. The beaver parasite, *Platypsylla castoris,* passes both larval and adult stages on the host. *Leptinus testaceous,* which frequents the nests of field mice, shrews and other small mammals of similar habit, and bumblebees, has been taken from the bodies of shrews killed in Alaska. *Leptinillus validus* occurs on beavers in the Hudson Bay region. *Lyrosoma opaca,* found on the islands of the North Pacific, occurs in the tenanted nests of the murres.

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Manhattan, Kas.

PRACTICAL PHOTO-MICROGRAPHY.

In this book the author seeks in a straight-forward way to give such a description of the apparatus and methods for making photographs of microscopic objects that the reader may find it a practical guide to his own work and not merely a scientific statement of the facts. The work is based directly on practical experience.

More space is given to the description of cameras and their construction and use than to the microscope, because of the existence of numerous books dealing with the latter.

Chapter I is an introductory chapter, recounting some of the steps in the development of the art of photo-micrography. Reference is made to improvements in the microscope and in the making and staining of preparations, to the development of the dry plate, and to the perfection of the methods of reproducing photographs for illustrations.

Chapter II discusses the microscope; chapters III and IV the optical equipment—objectives, oculars, condensers and collecting lenses; chapter V, sources of illumination; chapter VI, the photo-micrographic camera; chapter VII, the use and manipulation of the microscope; chapter VIII, general preliminary preparations; chapter IX, color-screens, plates, exposure; and chapter X, photographic processes. All this material is standard and reliable, discussing the main questions that most students would need.

In chapter XI, under the title "Some Special Processes," the author introduces some special topics which many students will be glad to have added. Such are photo-micrography by means of ultra-violet light by the Zeiss (Kohler) objective. By means of this we get a resolving power double that found in any visual objective; photography of metal surfaces; photography of tube and plate-cultures of bacteria; stereoscopic photo-micrography; production of lantern slides in color, etc.

Chapter XII gives, for practical guidance, a series of photographs of progressive difficulty accompanied by an exact statement of all the essential facts of their making. There are some 45 of these.

The appendices include microscopic standards of measurement, table of equivalent weights and measures; refractive indices of media; tables to guide in enlarging or reducing prints; determination of numerical aperture. There is an adequate index.

Practical Photo-Micrography, J. E. Barnard. 322 pages; illustrated. Longmans, Green & Co., N. Y. Price $4.20, net.